

In our current market today, technology and its use in society has risen over the past decade. Technology has become the center stone for practical uses within organizations, especially education. Technological devices have altered previous classrooms into modernized learning labs. Smartboards, laptops, and online applications such as Khan Academy have broaden the classroom setting into a technological scenery where student can expand their knowledge through interaction and utilize their learning styles. There are ways and examples that technology can benefit and disrupt the classroom.

At young ages, Students are constantly using technological devices whether it is using cell phones for communication, watching television for enjoyment, or operating computers to search through the Internet for gathering information. Essentially, students are introduced to different ways of applying enjoyable, beneficial, and educational technology to their lives. Since students are introduced to numerous technological situations, teachers have to implement technical settings and scenarios into the students' curriculum (Ed.gov, n.a.).

Since students have an earlier perspective of using technology, they can accomplish multiple and more complex assignments. With the help of technology, students are able to apply and reflect further into their educational experience with the use of technology. For technological applications such as Khan Academy, students can watch educational videos on certain mathematical and scientific subjects. Afterwards, they can apply their knowledge from the videos to interactive questionnaires related to the videos. Khan Academy displays itself as one of many technological applications that

allows students to visually learn a subject related to their content in school and apply their learning to educational examples (Khan Academy, 2014).

Not only can students use this technological website to their learning advantage, but teachers and parents can also observe their students' progress throughout the lesson if the teachers share their teacher accounts to the schoolchild's student account. This option for teachers benefits to managing a successful classroom. Khan Academy allows teachers to check their students' understandings through the amount of time students spend on the website, the amount of questions the students answer, and how many their students got correct. This technological application allows teachers to observe and manage students' understandings of a subject and recognizes where certain students excel or struggle within a subject (Khan Academy, 2014).

In every great advantage with technology, there are always numerous disadvantages with using it in the classroom. Some technological devices can distract students from focusing on the subjects they are studying. Dennis Adams states that students fall victim to technology's distractions because "if the entertainment doesn't come from the front of the...classroom, it comes from the Internet" (Bugeja, 2007). This entertainment that students receive from technology could have an effect on the students' emotions and participation within the classroom. If students are focused on technology's distractions, then students will lose focus on the teacher's presentation of the subject (Bugeja, 2007), (Gulley, 2003).

In order for teachers to keep the students engaged within an educational topic, teacher must technologically manage their classroom in a way that motivates students to yearn learning as well as focused on the content. A technological device that assists

teachers and their classroom is Smartboard. Smartboards are interactive whiteboards that allow teachers and students the options to write, edit, and move text and pictures around. Smartboards allow teachers move breathing room when it comes to performing their lessons. Smartboards are also great devices for allowing students to interact with. Scott Miler comments by saying that the Smartboards “open up more opportunities for students to interact with something” (Weber, 2010). Having teachers apply technology devices such as Smartboards in the classroom can motivate students to focus on the content and not abuse technology (Weber, 2010).

For all educators, an important classroom management tool that should be established in the beginning of the year is classroom expectations. For all students and teachers, it is important to establish rules and boundaries within the classroom. It is especially significant in having the students and teachers work together to produce an honest list of classroom rules. Two expectations that are vital to the classroom setting include respecting each other and classroom procedures.

It is important that students and teachers share mutual respect with each other. This respect can be established during the first week of school when teachers and students collaboratively work together on establishing classroom rules and goals. Classroom expectations that resemble respect include respect for one’s livelihood, respect for the school’s property, and respect for each other’s property. Determining essential standards for both the teachers and the students produce a respectful and manageable classroom (Wilkins, 1995), (Vanderbilt University, 2014).

An additional idea that should be established in the beginning of the semester is the classroom’s procedures. It is important that students and teachers understand the

procedures in the classroom. Promoting a safe classroom is one of many but the most important procedure that teachers can incorporate in the classroom setting. Teachers can have a safe classroom by ensuring safe communication and humor between the teachers and the students. Through safe communication and humor, teachers can encourage student participation. With harmless communication and humor, students will feel safer and encouraged to participate more without the fear of being judged for their responses (Cohen, Cardillo, & Pickeral, 2011).

**\*\***This is just a rough draft, I will add more information and expand on the ideas I have written so far during vacation**\*\***

#### Work Sites

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